

FROM JAPANESE INTERNMENT CAMP VIA MONKTON TO WORLD-WIDE SERVICE By Peter Jordan (51)

Peter Jordan makes contact again and writes from Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada with part of his story.

"As a lapsed Om-er, thank you for the last (perhaps the very last) Old Monktonian Gazette. I read with interest the reports and articles and news of recent events. Memories flood back – especially of Henley Royal Regatta (I was '7' in the 1st VIII in the Princess Elizabeth Cup races in 1951. We did pretty well that year.)

... **Dick Hole** was our coach in those days... A fine man and a good coach. I believe we won two races that year, first Portora Royal, then Shrewsbury. (We received a telegram that simply said, "Wallop Salop!"). I think we lost to the eventual winners, Bedford, in the semis.

My family and I were interned in Shanghai for 3 1/2 years 1942-45, during which time my formal education suffered, but perhaps was compensated for by the experience of it all. So how I was ever accepted at Monkton I'll never know (nor do I know how my family could afford it). I arrived largely unmotivated in 1947 and scraped through.

.... I have marvellous memories of China! If Stephen Spielberg hadn't made a movie from the book, "*Empire of the Sun*" (which was a good movie, but a terribly bad representation of what happened in our internment camp), I might have tried to write a book on it. The author of the book - Ballard - was three years older than my 11 years when we came out in '45 and he wrote the book as a fantasy. And perhaps an 11 year-old's memories would be too one-dimensional from an age perspective.

.... I immigrated to Canada in September 1951 and worked and continued my undistinguished education at University for a couple of years before serving as a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force and then in the RCN(R) before going into business.

...For the last 33 years my wife and I have been missionaries with Youth With A Mission (YWAM), based in Asia and the Pacific, and now in Canada. We currently direct a ministry to former YWAMers called YWAM Associates international. We have a bit of a multi-cultural family; of our three daughters one is married to a Samoan and two to Australians. And our oldest

daughter has just adopted a little Chinese baby girl from Taiwan. That's what you get for being in YWAM!)

...Though I cannot say that I enjoyed my early education – because my early years were spent in Japanese internment camp, thus I missed out on most of the basics - I have very fond memories of Monkton. The discipline learned there has served me well.

Peter has kindly provided the School with a copy of his book “Re-Entry – Making The Transition From Missions To Life At Home”